## 2014 Reward Schools in Brief

Reward Schools are made up of three categories of schools ranked on the Top-to-Bottom List (TTB)<sup>1</sup>. High Performing Reward Schools are the top 5% of schools, or those ranked in the 95<sup>th</sup>-99<sup>th</sup> percentiles. High Progress Reward Schools are those determined to have the 5% highest rates of improvement. Beating the Odds Reward Schools are schools that are outperforming their predicted rank on the TTB List, or outperforming similar schools, given select risk factors to student achievement. This brief discusses characteristics of the 2014 Reward School List.

## **Characteristics of the 2014 Reward School List**

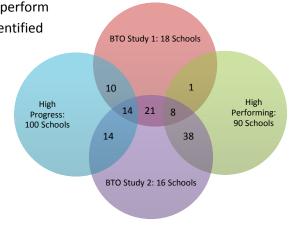
 330 schools were designated Reward in 2014. Of these schools, 137 are identified as High Performing and 138 are identified as High Progress schools.

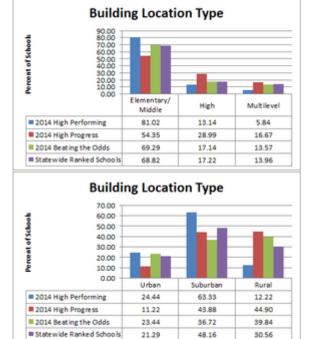
• 140 schools were determined to be Beating the Odds (BTO). 18 schools were identified only in

BTO study 1, which recognizes schools that outperform their predicted rank on the TTB list. 16 were identified in only BTO study 2, which highlights schools that are outperforming schools with similar characteristics. 21 schools were identified by both BTO studies. Of these 140 BTO schools, 85 were already named in the high performing or high achieving analyses.

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Thus, 55 schools qualify for Reward status due to BTO status alone.





- High schools are overrepresented among High Progress schools, while elementary and middle schools are overrepresented among High Performing schools. 29% of High Progress schools are high schools, while only 17% of all ranked schools are high schools. 81% of High Performing schools are elementary or middle schools, compared to the 68% of elementary and middle schools statewide.
- Rural schools are overrepresented among High Progress and Beating the Odds schools: 38% of High Progress schools and 45% of BTO schools are in rural areas, while only 30% of schools statewide are located in rural areas. Suburban schools are overrepresented among High Performing schools.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Top-to-Bottom List is a performance ranking of schools based on achievement, improvement, and within-school achievement gaps. For more information please see TTB documentation on the accountability section of www.michigan.gov/ttb.